

LIM 503 | Professor McCaslin

# A Call for Best Practices in Cataloging a Library of Things

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## Abstract

Libraries across the nation are adopting a popular collection development trend called a Library of Things, allowing patrons to check out non-traditional library materials such as sewing machines, instruments, and tools for little to no cost. To make these collections searchable and accessible, libraries either create a standalone web presence or integrate the items into their online public access catalog (OPAC). This paper proposes that integrating records into an OPAC makes items more discoverable for patrons but forces librarians with little cataloging experience to create original records. The paper delivers a call to action, arguing that the Public Library Association should develop a holistic program, including webinars, a best practices cataloging guide, and a dedicated Library of Things cataloging page to support novice catalogers struggling to build access to non-traditional items.

*Keywords:* library of things, cataloging, best practices, access, technical services

## Introduction

From coolers to cake pans, fishing poles to flashlights, public libraries now offer a dizzying array of non-traditional items on loan (Dankowski & Mead, 2017; Glum, 2019). For decades, libraries included a few non-text based objects in their collections, often teaching aids such as globes and scientific models (Robison & Shedd, 2017). However, contemporary collections have moved out of the classroom and expanded to include tools, toys, tech and more

(Brown, 2017). Seeing a way to strengthen community ties, libraries offer items of local relevance. For example, Wisconsin libraries supply snowshoes (Peterson, 2019) while Oregon branches loan gold panning kits (Coastline Libraries, n.d.). Like the mix of offerings, the number of libraries hosting some kind of non-traditional collection has exploded. In the 15 years since a New York public library first housed a seed collection (Peekhaus, 2018), hundreds of other libraries have followed suit (Davis-Young, 2018). Although libraries sometimes market their collections by playful names such as Stuffbrary (Mesa Library, 2020), individually and collectively the phenomenon is best known as a Library of Things (Enis, 2016).

Several forces have converged to fuel the Library of Things phenomenon. Thanks to the rise of the maker movement, more people are seeking opportunities to create. Recognizing this demand, public libraries have stepped in to loan equipment such as sewing machines and silk screen printers (Robison & Shedd, 2017). Meanwhile, economic pressures and digital competition have pushed public libraries to demonstrate their relevance (KCRA News, 2016). Offering non-traditional items not only feeds foot traffic to library facilities (Library of Things, 2019) but helps libraries reinvent themselves as community hubs (Peekhaus, 2018). Financial strains and environmental concerns have stoked the sharing economy, a social movement that emphasizes borrowing infrequently used items such as household tools to save money and reduce waste (Ameli, 2017). In response, some nonprofits have launched fee-based borrowing collectives such as the Minnesota Tool Library (2020) and the Toronto Sharing Depot (2020). Typically, U.S. public libraries offer collections for free (Enis, 2016; ClackCo TV, 2019).

### **The Problem: How to Catalog “Stuff”**

Despite their attractions, Libraries of Things can create significant headaches for library staff. Lending unusual items may sound fun, but banjos and bakeware require maintenance and

cleaning, while sleds and saws pose liability risks (Robison & Shedd, 2017). Librarians face decisions such as where to store bulky items, whether to require legal waivers, and how to discourage theft. They also face the question: How can our patrons discover what we have? When a collection is small, librarians may be able to display the items so walk-in visitors can browse the possibilities. However, as collections grow, so do the challenges of making it visible, especially to patrons searching by screen.

Unfortunately, public library staff today have little experience performing original cataloging. Most traditional library materials now arrive shelf-ready, thanks to value-added services from library collection vendors such as Baker & Taylor (2020), Ingram (2020), and Midwest Tape (2020). So many public libraries have moved to this outsourced model that one American Library Association (ALA) webinar asked, “Is technical services dead?” (Weiss and Moore, 2016). Meanwhile, the Public Library Association (PLA) has moved so firmly away from tech services that its latest annual conference, which boasted 120 sessions, included just one panel with any connection to cataloging (PLA, 2020b). Yet, libraries cannot take shelf-ready shortcuts to integrate the items in a Library of Things. Although information database giant EBSCO looked into the market three years ago (EBSCO, 2017), traditional library vendors do not yet sell pasta pots or power drills or karaoke machines. Therefore, librarians who want non-traditional items in their catalog must do the job themselves. This can be a particular challenge because objects do not fit easily into standard cataloging formats. A librarian hoping to catalog a Crock pot might despair at a template of frequently used MARC tags (Joudrey & Taylor, 2017, p. 257), which would call for inputs such as Dewey Decimal Classification Number, Edition Statement, and Bibliography when the librarian might be more interested in documenting the pot’s condition, whether it requires a liability waiver, and whether it includes more than one part.

With so many special considerations, non-traditional items threaten to overburden MARC's 500 level for General Note. To navigate the mismatch between cataloging models and collection concerns, public librarians need help. This paper will investigate models and call for guidelines to catalog a Library of Things.

### **Current Models**

When launching a Library of Things program, libraries must decide how to organize and provide access to the collection. Most libraries follow one of two pathways: cataloging objects to integrate them into the preexisting Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) or having the descriptive elements of the collection exist outside of the OPAC as a library guide hosted on the library's website or as a stand-alone web presence. Libraries who opt for the latter may also create a short bib record or brief title record in order to attach an item ID or barcode to support circulation and inventory functions.

Organizing Library of Things items outside of the OPAC has been a solution for many library systems looking to sidestep the problem of having to create original catalog records. Cary Memorial Library (2020), for instance, uses a standalone page to showcase its collection. By dividing its Library of Things into simple categories, the library makes it easy for patrons to search within interests such as puzzles, musical instruments or crafts. Organizing items on a separate page also allows libraries to support patrons with related content, such as how-to guides and videos. Fully customizable, Library of Things guides and sites can include as much or as little information as the institution desires. Medford Library provides a single web page (see Figure 1) for its entire Library of Things collection that functions as a simple photo gallery sorting items into general themes.

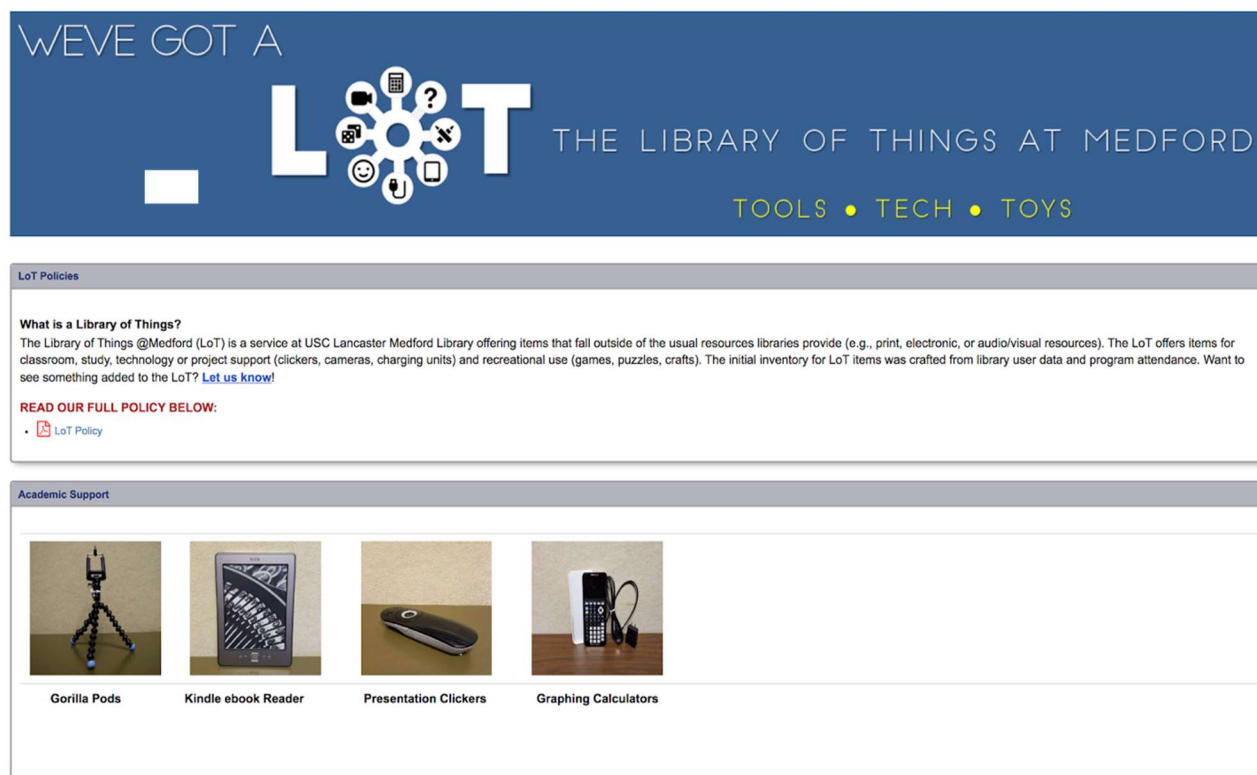
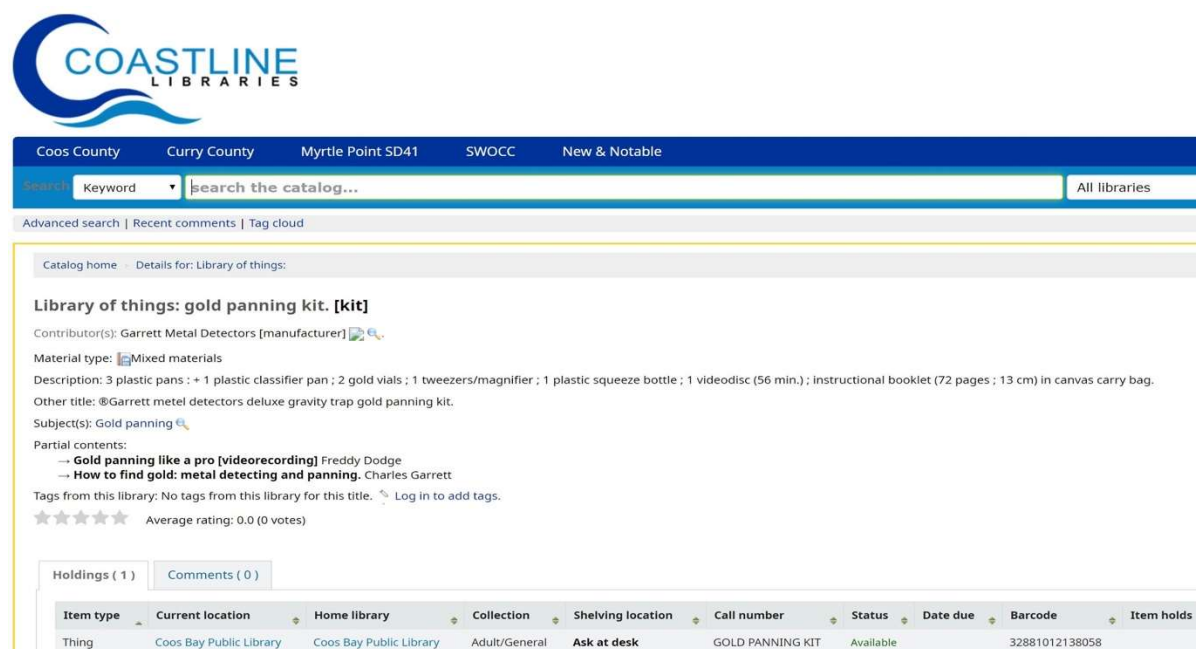


Figure 1. Library of Things catalog welcome page. From Medford County Library, 2019.  
<http://usclancaster.libguides.com/c.php?g=576401&p=3976038>

However, creating a stand-alone presence also invites hurdles. Developing separate web pages requires trained staff and resources. In a sense, libraries that create stand-alone directories trade the complication of original cataloging for the problem of sophisticated web design. The more complex a site or a page becomes, the more financial resources are required to support it. For example, if a library would like to track item inventories and metrics through the website, someone would need to develop this infrastructure. If the library does not already employ a web developer, the task must be outsourced to a vendor. Sacramento Public Library, for instance, pays the web platform developer MyTurn to manage its Library of Things program (Sacramento Public Library & MyTurn, pbc., n.d.). While stand-alone pages can spotlight Library of Things collections, they also limit their discoverability. Without catalog integration, patrons may never stumble upon Library of Things items during catalog searches. To compensate for this barrier,

the library would need to employ additional marketing strategies and programming efforts to acquaint patrons with the Library of Things. When they debut non-traditional collections, most libraries draw publicity, from local television news up to the *New York Times* (e.g., KCRA News, 2016; Brown, 2015). Many libraries promote their programs through social media and on YouTube (e.g., ClackCo TV, 2019, but once a program launches, the press falls away, and new visitors to a branch or website might not be aware of non-traditional collections generally much less their specifics, which change often. Even with heavy promotion, external library guides would likely cost patrons the opportunity to discover traditional library holdings such as slow cooker recipe books that could enhance the experience of borrowing a non-traditional Crock pot.

Libraries that add Library of Things collections to their catalog also face challenges. Unlike books or videos, objects often do not have their own format as an OPAC search field so libraries that want to make a collection searchable as a whole may need to trick the system by entering “Library of Things” at the start of each object record (see Figure 2).



The screenshot shows the Coastline Libraries website interface. At the top is the logo for COASTLINE LIBRARIES. Below it is a navigation bar with links for Coos County, Curry County, Myrtle Point SD41, SWOCC, and New & Notable. A search bar is present with the placeholder text 'search the catalog...'. Below the search bar are links for 'Advanced search', 'Recent comments', and 'Tag cloud'. The main content area displays the details for a 'Library of things: gold panning kit. [kit]'. The details include the contributor (Garrett Metal Detectors), material type (Mixed materials), description (3 plastic pans, 1 plastic classifier pan, 2 gold vials, 1 tweezers/magnifier, 1 plastic squeeze bottle, 1 videodisc, 1 instructional booklet), other title (Garrett metal detectors deluxe gravity trap gold panning kit), subject (Gold panning), partial contents (Gold panning like a pro [videorecording] Freddy Dodge, How to find gold: metal detecting and panning, Charles Garrett), and tags from this library (No tags from this library for this title). The average rating is 0.0 (0 votes). Below the details is a table showing the holdings for this item.

Item type	Current location	Home library	Collection	Shelving location	Call number	Status	Date due	Barcode	Item holds
Thing	Coos Bay Public Library	Coos Bay Public Library	Adult/General	Ask at desk	GOLD PANNING KIT	Available		32881012138058	

Figure 2. Library of Things search results for gold panning kit included in the general catalog under the item type “Thing.” From Coastline Libraries, n.d. <https://coastlinelibrarynetwork.org/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=881610>

Cataloging a Library of Things cannot be easy, because cataloging standards such as Resource Description and Access (RDA) were built for books and other media, not objects. As a result, a librarian cataloging a Library of Things is forced to answer what seem to be the wrong questions. What, for instance, is a vacuum cleaner's date of publication? Catalogers in special formats continually face such "round-peg-in-a-square-hole" decisions (Moore, Freeborn, Janecki & Schomberg, 2020, p. 10), a daunting prospect for anyone, but especially for rookies.

Despite the awkwardness, libraries enjoy big benefits when they incorporate Libraries of Things into their usual catalogs. When records for non-traditional items are connected directly to the library's integrated library system (ILS), patrons can request bocce balls just as they would books (see Figure 3). Most ILS systems track metrics, so librarians can gather circulation

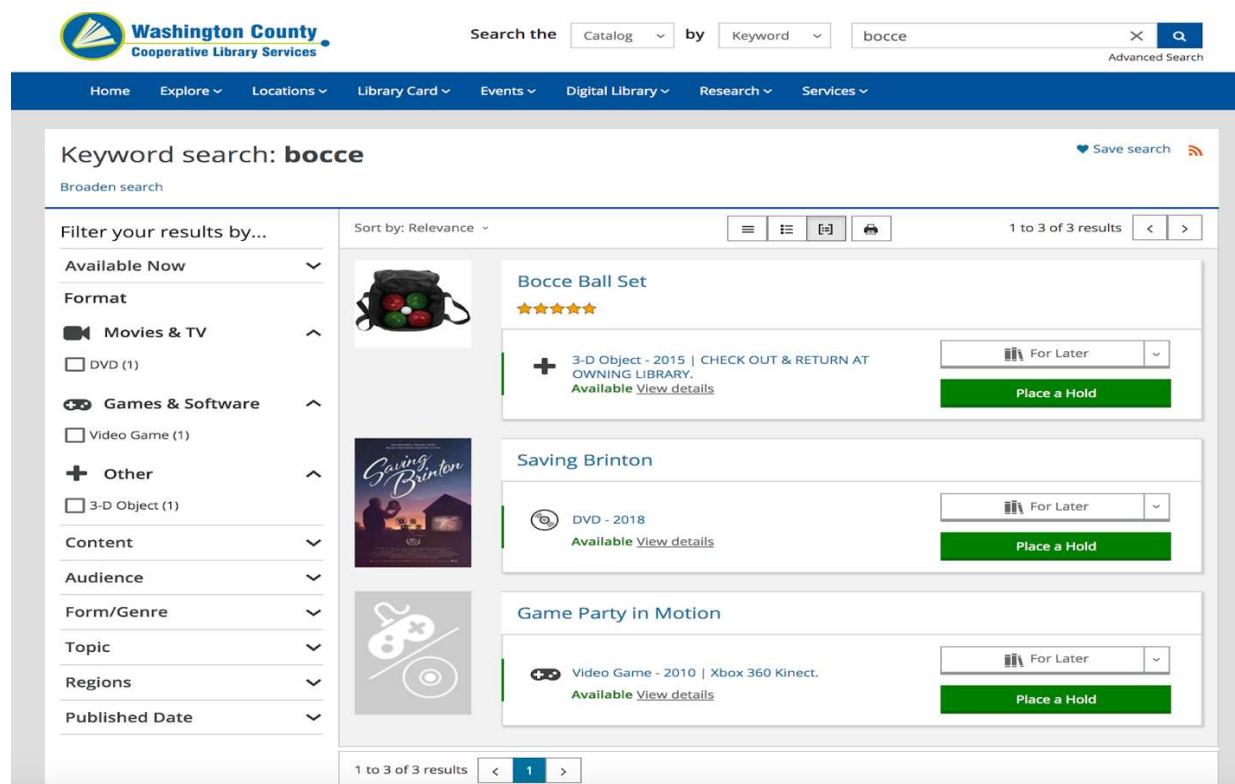


Figure 3. Bocce (keyword search) listed in the Library of Things catalog. From Washington County Cooperative Library Services, 2020, <https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/v2/search?query=bocce+ball&searchType=smart>

statistics to inform future collection development decisions such as "Should we buy more sewing machines?" Most importantly, patrons are familiar with the catalog and comfortable searching there, so including the Library of Things in the catalog aids discoverability. With integrated cataloging, a busy cook searching on "Crock pot recipes" could discover that Crock pots are also available for loan. By creating original records, librarians could tag related items so patrons could find Crock pots even if they search on "slow cooker." Tags also allow librarians to sort items in diverse, user-friendly categories. Librarians in Brooklyn, OH, tag records of items in their toy collection so patrons could search by fields such as developmental age or how long an item had been in the collection (Kirschner, 2017). Similarly, a librarian might add creative, new tags such as "one pot meals" to market Crock pots along with Woks and casseroles.

### **Possible Solutions**

When trying to integrate Libraries of Things, novice catalogers would benefit from dedicated webinars and a barebones, best practices guide targeted to this task. Resources are scattered, hard to find, and sometimes difficult for amateurs to navigate. The only monograph devoted to Libraries of Things is a collection of case studies, *Audio recorders to zucchini seeds* (Robison & Shedd, 2017). The editors offer just three paragraphs on cataloging, describing problems libraries have faced and urging libraries to develop unique systems that "balance user discoverability with ease of service" (Robison & Shedd, 2017, p. 231). While trailblazing libraries have found individual solutions, the libraries that follow would appreciate a map.

Although academic libraries loan non-traditional items, Libraries of Things are largely a public library trend, so PLA should take a leadership role to create a coordinated program to support cataloging such collections. This program should include an online cataloging guide and a series of dedicated webinars, as well as a call for conference proposals, a listserv, and cross-



promotion through other library groups. Currently, PLA has a web page devoted to non-traditional circulating materials (PLA, 2020a), but it is buried, infrequently maintained, and dominated by links to general interest articles. PLA should reinvent this page to spotlight the Library of Things to showcase the cataloging guide and webinars.

To begin, PLA should create a task force to craft a concise guide for cataloging a Library of Things. As a model, PLA should look to *Best practices for cataloging objects using RDA and MARC 21* (Moore, Freeborn, Janecki & Schomberg, 2020). This recently released PDF from Online Audiovisual Catalogers, Inc. (OLAC) relays practical advice for cataloging objects. Perhaps most usefully, it includes an appendix with 30 sample MARC records for items from puzzles to realia such as a teacup and saucer (see Figure 4). At 167 pages, the OLAC guide is

### Realia (Manufactured, Distributed)

**Title:** Votes for Women tea cup and saucer

OCLC 1010824138 (Example of repeatable 300 field.)

Type r ELv l Srce d Audn Ctrl Lang eng  
BLvl m Form GPub Time nnn MRec Ctry enk  
Desc i TMat r Tech n DtSt q Dates 1903 , 1917

040 \_\_ \$a XXX \$b eng \$e rda \$c XXX  
049 \_\_ \$a XXXX  
245 00 \$a Votes for women tea cup and saucer.  
264 \_2 \$a [England?] : \$b [Women's Social and Political Union?], \$c [between 1903 and 1917?]  
300 \_\_ \$a 1 tea cup : \$b porcelain, white, green, purple ; \$c 7 x 12 x 12 cm  
300 \_\_ \$a 1 saucer : \$b porcelain, white, green, purple ; \$c 16 x 16 x 2 cm  
336 \_\_ \$a three-dimensional form \$b tdf \$2 rdacontent  
337 \_\_ \$a unmediated \$b n \$2 rdamedia  
338 \_\_ \$a object \$b nr \$2 rdacarrier  
380 \_\_ \$a Tableware \$2 lcsht  
588 0\_ \$a Title devised by cataloger.  
500 \_\_ \$a Date of issuance estimated from activity of Women's Social and Political Union.  
520 \_\_ \$a 1 tea cup with matching saucer. Items are white with green accents and feature the text "votes for women" in large purple capitals. Possibly commissioned by the Women's Social and Political Union as the cup and saucer share the WSPU's colors of green and purple.  
650 \_0 \$a Women \$x Suffrage.  
655 \_7 \$a Teacups. \$2 aat  
710 2\_ \$a Women's Social and Political Union (Great Britain), \$e commissioning body.

Image: Votes for Women tea cup and saucer



Figure 4. Votes for Women tea cup and saucer MARC record. Reprinted from *Best practices for cataloging objects using RDA and MARC 21* [PDF], by J. R. Moore, R. B. Freeborn, J. Janecki, and J.J. Schomberg, 2020, Retrieved from [https://www.olacinc.org/sites/default/files/OLAC\\_Objects\\_BestPractices\\_22Jan2020.pdf](https://www.olacinc.org/sites/default/files/OLAC_Objects_BestPractices_22Jan2020.pdf)

both too long and too focused on items of historical interest to speak directly to novice catalogers in public libraries. However, it would provide an excellent starting point for PLA's task force. With the OLAC guide in hand, PLA should summon a handful of Library of Things pioneers and members of the Association for Librarian Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) to shape a simplified resource. Sacramento Public Library could share its basic template, which includes a title, publisher, physical description, key words and a summary. PLA could also adapt Sacramento's practice of giving all items a basic call number, "THING" followed by the item's title, so patrons can search collections as a whole (Alvarado, Azevedo & Calhoun, 2017). The directors of the Brooklyn, Ohio, toy library could speak to the benefits of tagging. ALCTS would provide much-needed cataloging expertise. The end result should be a document of about 25 pages, short on description and long on sample records for items in key categories (e.g., a tool, a board game, a piece of sports equipment, kitchenware). Like the OPAC guide, this Library of Things guide would be an online PDF. This resource could be showcased on a new Library of Things page available through PLA's website but also freely cross-promoted through links on other sites, such as ALCTS.

PLA should also partner with ALCTS to create a series of webinars devoted to cataloging non-traditional items. At present, PLA links to a single Library of Things webinar (Infopeople, 2015) with virtually no mention of cataloging. For its part, ALCTS offers free webinars on cataloging basics (Newberg, 2010) and even one focused on three-dimensional objects (McGrath, 2012), but these old, unwieldy resources include only scattered discussion relevant to Libraries of Things. Instead, PLA and ALCTS should team up to create brief webinars that address problems particular to cataloging Libraries of Things. One video could cover the basics while another discussed how to adapt catalog records for items that raise liability concerns and

require disclosure statements and waivers. A different video could discuss kits, games, and other items with multiple parts, which can create special headaches for catalogers. Yet another could address issues specific to seed libraries, such as how to classify seeds (common name? Latin name? color? fragrance?) and whether to create a new record when a seed is “returned” after cross-pollination. More webinars could be added as new issues or new trends in collections arise. Each webinar would not only guide inexperienced catalogers but also showcase the possibilities for non-traditional collections. For marketing purposes, PLA should brand its combined Library of Things cataloging efforts under a memorable name, such as LOTCAT. To establish a brand identity, PLA should develop a logo, perhaps of a cartoon cat smiling atop a pile of tennis rackets, steam cleaners, guitars, and buzzsaws, typical non-traditional things. To further outreach, PLA should regularly request LOTCAT proposals for its annual conference. To build community, PLA should launch a LOTCAT listserv, where veterans could post occasional tips and rookies could ask for help on particular projects.

To promote LOTCAT resources, PLA should partner with other library affiliated groups. Since loaning non-traditional items reduces wasteful purchases, a natural ally would be ALA’s Sustainability Round Table. This active group sends biweekly emails, hosts events, sponsors panels at ALA conferences, and maintains a strong presence on the ALA website. ALA’s recent adoption of sustainability as a core value of librarianship opens the door for much greater attention to green library initiatives (ALA, 2019). Teaming up with the Sustainability Roundtable could allow PLA to heighten visibility for its Library of Things cataloging resources. In addition to their permanent home on a new PLA Library of Things cataloging page, the LOTCAT guide and webinars could be promoted on ALA’s home page under its eLearning banner or even under a new banner for Sustainability. With the support of a media savvy librarian such as sustainable

libraries activist Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, LOTCAT could become a library buzzword. In this way, public librarians eyeing ski sets and sewing machines would come to know that they need not confront the catalog alone.

## **Conclusion**

As more libraries establish collections of things, the need for cataloging best practices will only grow. The status quo is wildly inefficient, forcing libraries to create individual systems and compounding the effort of what are already unusually demanding collections. As a profession, librarians should be doing everything they can to support Libraries of Things. While circulation for traditional items is down, enthusiasm for non-traditional collections is up. Non-traditional collections offer public libraries a powerful way to reinvent themselves as cultural centers and community hubs, integrated into people's daily lives. Public libraries, which have shown great initiative in launching Libraries of Things, deserve the support of a professional association with similar ambition. Through webinars, online promotion, and the creation of a basic cataloging guide, PLA could offer powerful support to the intrepid public librarians whose commitment to service drops them suddenly into the unfamiliar landscape of cataloging. By aligning with groups such as ALCTS and the Sustainability Roundtable, PLA could extend its reach and magnify its support for catalogers through an integrated LOTCAT platform to support access to Libraries of Things.

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## Peer Review (due week 8; partners turn in same completed document)

### Reviewers: **Student 1**, **Student 2**

*Review teams should set up a time to discuss the paper (read it in advance) and draft the responses as a team. You should **not** divide the questions and each respond to only a portion of them.*

### Overall comments (2-4 sentences from each reviewer)

*What did you find most compelling or interesting about the paper? Identify and describe a strength; identify and describe a weaknesses or opportunity to improve the paper.*

The paper was well written, interesting, and dealt with a timely issue for public libraries. I found it most compelling to learn there a so few methods in placed for cataloging items for a Library of Things. Also interesting was the various number of items available for users in a Library of Things. I could see how having these kinds items available for check-out helps in community building. The paper made good use of research and presented plenty real-world examples. An opportunity for improvement; author could offer more specific solutions for the problem of cataloging items in a Library of Things other than calling for PLA to take more leadership.

It's very interesting to read not only about the Library of Things as a whole and it's intended purpose, but the challenges that librarians are currently experiencing as well as the work arounds they are currently implementing. A strength in this paper is that both sides of the problem are being acknowledged which helps the paper at the end when the call to action happens for basic guidelines to be created for non-traditional items. To improve the paper, I think I would add a brief section in the current models as to how libraries are currently creating exposure for non-traditional items in terms of marketing.

### Thesis/Argument

*Does the paper have a clear thesis, and is it well supported? Do you accept it as plausible, whether you agree with it or not? Where is more evidence needed?*

Paper had a clear thesis and did great job supporting it by outlining the problems with cataloging not-

traditional library items. Plenty of relevant examples were used throughout the paper in support of the thesis. After a second reading, I felt more supportive of the paper's argument.

The thesis is clearly stated at the end of problem section. It states the "paper will investigate models and call for guidelines to catalog a Library of Things" and is supported by explaining the different current models of cataloging for non-traditional items and ends it with a call for the Public Library Association to create a set of guidelines to help other libraries attempting to do this similar thing.

## **Organization**

*Is the introduction engaging? Does it capture your attention? Is the paper easy to follow? Did the paper set up the conclusions the author reached?*

The introduction was engaging as it was informative. The authors did a great job of keeping my attention through use of good research and explanation. The writing was easy to understand.

The paper flowed great and transitioned well from section to section. Each section was supported by the previous one making the paper easy to follow. The introduction was engaging by providing a brief history of the Library of Things and/or similar programs. The conclusion accurately summed up the argument the authors were trying to make which was to set up a best practices guideline for cataloging these non-traditional items.

## **Writing/ voice/tone/language**

*Is the writing persuasive? Is the language and word choice appropriate? How could it be more effective?*

The writing was persuasive as it never lost focus on the thesis and made a strong case for cataloging guidelines for Libraries of Things. For the most part, language and word choice was appropriate except for a couple of instances where tone did not match previous sections.

The writing is very authoritative which is great for a paper that's trying to do a call for action at the end. The evidence provided about the current problem helps persuade readers that there definitely should be a better method for cataloging non-traditional items.

## Effectiveness

*Is there enough interpretation, or does the author **merely present found data (reporting vs. analysis)**? Does the author address conflicting points of view? Do they address the larger context? Is there anything problematic that needs further explanation or documentation? Can anything be cut?*

Authors did a good job of interpreting their findings and using it to support their thesis for not enough guideline for cataloging Libraries of Things. The paper offered current models for solutions but argued that these were not sufficient enough. Perhaps more explanation could have been offered as to the difficulty in cataloging objects as oppose to books.

There is a lot of data being presented in this paper, but it is being backed up with throughout analysis that connects it back to the thesis. The reader not only receives an explanation of both the current models and their benefits, but the challenges associated are also brought into context.

## Suggestions for expanding (or focusing) the scope?

*After reading the paper, what elements are you curious about, what would you like to know more about? Is there anything that should be cut to make the paper more focused and readable?*

I would like to learn how or if LIS programs are recognizing these new trends in cataloging.

I wouldn't cut anything from the paper as it currently provides a nice overview of the challenges cataloging non-traditional items for public libraries. However, I am curious as to what marketing tactics are being used to expose the Library of Things collections. Since some libraries are creating stand-alone web pages and others are tricking the system to integrate the items, are there strategies in place to create awareness for such items?

## Revision Rationale

Our revision focused on fleshing out our call for a simple Library of Things cataloging guide from the Public Library Association (PLA). Both our peers and our professor identified this as an area that needed bolstering. We expanded our vision to a holistic approach that would

unite the proposed cataloging guide with a series of topical webinars under the umbrella of a branded program known as LOTCAT. We gave specificity to the guide, noting that it should combine a simple template like the one developed by Sacramento Public Library with the sample-rich approach of the *Best practices for cataloging objects* guide recently released by the Online Audiovisual Catalogers, Inc. (OLAC). To illustrate this concept, we included a sample MARC record from the OLAC guide. We noted that the LOTCAT guide should be created by a taskforce of Library of Things veterans joined by members of the Association for Librarian Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS). The most important part of the guide would be the samples, showing novice catalogers how to deal with typical non-traditional items, such as tools, bakeware, board games, and musical instruments. To supplement this online tool, PLA should team up with ALCTS to create a series of how-to webinars addressing Library of Things cataloging issues such as where to flag and process waivers of liability. These resources should enjoy a permanent home on a dedicated Library of Things cataloging page on PLA's website. To promote LOTCAT and make sure it reached all parties, PLA should create a LOTCAT listserv and partner with the American Library Association (ALA)'s Sustainability Round Table, which has the momentum and the media savvy to jumpstart LOTCAT's visibility and make the platform a go-to resource for novice catalogers of non-traditional objects.

Along with this broad reimagining of our paper's aim, we made several incremental improvements in response to feedback. We used more images to demonstrate current LOT catalog records. Now, when we talk about Coastline Libraries' cataloging technique to make items searchable as a collection, that point is illustrated by a record for its gold panning kit. We adjusted citations for images as requested. We added new sources, including one that documents PLA's neglect of cataloging at its recent conference and an EBSCO survey that suggests that big

vendors might one day become suppliers for Libraries of Things. As our professor recommended, we thought more about the patron's perspective, advocating tagging as a way to allow patrons who search under one term to find an item cataloged by its synonym. We tweaked our text to reflect that a lack of technical services and support is a problem for public libraries, not academic ones. At our professor's suggestion, we worked harder to paint the predicament of novice catalogers, illustrating the dilemma of a librarian forced to catalog a Crock pot. At our peers' request, we added more insight into how libraries market non-traditional collections and how PLA could market LOTCAT to librarians. Finally, we extended the conclusion to reflect more of our specific plan.